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2-16-1865

### 1865-02-16, James to mother and sister

James D. Marshall

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In camp near Petersburg Jan<sup>y</sup> 16 1865

Dear Mother

In my last letter I promised you that I would write again as soon as I got a table well we have got one now and they have all gone to bed so I guess I will sit up a while and write to you. you wanted to know how my health was. it is pretty good but I am not near as rugged as I used to be before I came out here and I don't expect it will be while I stop out here. I weigh one hundred and 35 my appetite is poor the most of the time some times for a few days I will have a good appetite but it don't last long as for my lameness I am about well of that my hip troubled me bad when we went on that raid but I guess it will get sound by the time the spring campaign comes. I suppose the folks down that way think that this war is about wound up. it does look some thing like it now but I am afraid that we have got to fight there one summer more before they will give up. but if they new enough to know eny thing they would know that



was licked now I was on picket last Saturday  
about eleven o'clock at night ~~they~~ 4 Rebs came  
in on the post that I was on and give them  
selves up neither of them had any over  
coats and one of them had on a palmleaf  
hat rather cold for this wather they is some  
coming in every night they said ther  
whole Reg would come in <sup>if</sup> they could get a  
chance. they say that they know that they  
ar licked and they ar awfull sick of it. they say  
to that the people ar haveing meetings all  
over the southern states to see if they cant  
do something to get back into the union  
the sooner they come the better twil sute  
us Boys, I guess I will tell you what I had for  
supper to night I had some nice hot flour  
bread butter and applesauce the bread I made myself  
the butter was some that Jim had come from  
home. I have got a little cittle I take and put  
a tin plate on it for a cover then put  
some coles on it and I tell you I can  
bake some nice bread in it,

by the way I believe I never told you that  
I was a Corporal the Capt. maid a Corp of me  
soon after I came back. to be sure it is  
not a very high office but it is better than  
a privet. 18 is better than 16 then my duty  
is not so hard when I am on guard  
instead of walking a beat all I have to do is  
to post the reliefs you see I dont have to  
stay out in the rain near as much



them gloves and mittens fitted just as nice  
as they could I tell you they come handy  
some of these cold nights when I am on  
picket we have to go about 2 miles on picket  
and go on about once in 5 days. we have a company  
every forenoon and a batalion every afternoon  
when it dont rain,  
you speak about Bub and Charley you said you wished  
I could have been there and seen them before  
they died Oh, dont I wish I could to, it seems  
hard that they was sick and died and I  
couldnot see them I would have given a  
good deal to have been there when they was  
sick but I could not little did I think  
when I took Charley up and she gave me  
such a sweet kiss just before I come away  
that it was the last kiss that she would  
ever give me. Oh, it is hard to think that they  
are gone and we can never ~~see~~ see them again in  
world but I suppose that we ought to feel thank-  
full that Alice was spared and was not taken  
with them. how is she getting along now I hope  
she has got well poor little thing how lonesome  
she must be I wish I had some things to send  
her but I have not, I have not heard from  
Henry since I was down there, my candle is  
most burnt out and I want to write a few  
lines to Eliza so good night write often

From Your Son James D. Marshall



Dear Sister

It has been quite a while since I wrote to you but there is not a days passes but I think of you and the rest of the folks at home. I would like to be at home to night the first thing I should do would be to go to the cupboard and see if you had any donuts cooked if you had I should get a quart of milk and sit down in the corner and go in tige. I suppose you feel big enough riding after that nice horse. I would like to be there I would take the windes out of him but never mind perhaps I will get home again then I will have a team of my own. we have not been paid of yet but expect to this month. I hope we shall because I want some money to send home it is pretty cold here now and we have to lug our wood all of a mile and I tell ye it is no fun where is H. G. King now and go Chadsen tell Ambrose I will write to him soon I am getting sleepy and must close write soon

Jim

Now I received your letter a few days ago I am glad you have got smart enough to write. I think you are real smart to peg a pair of gloves I wish I had something to send you but I have not. you must keep up good courage and get well as fast as you can. write again soon  
from your brother Jim